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these threats the accused was aroused, and set the preacher's threats at defiance, and without much ceremony, left the conclave sitting in silent astonishment; perhaps as much so as they would have been at the appearance of Belzebub himself.

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

ON REMUNERATION TO SURGEONS ATTENDING CORONERS' INQUESTS.

THE following letter has been lately written to Sir Samuel Romilly on the subject of the attendance of medical persons on coroners' inquests. It is sent for publication in your pages to direct public attention to what may be fairly considered as a defect in our criminal jurisprudence in an important point.

K.

"The occasion of a woman dying in this town under suspicious circumstances has renewed some opinions I have long entertained on the subject of a defect in our criminal jurisprudence, in relation to the assistance of medical persons both before the coroner's inquest, and on the subsequent trial: and on defects of the criminal law, I know of none to whom we can apply more suitably, than to Sir Samuel Romilly.

"In Ireland, and I suppose in England also, there is no legal provision for remunerating the surgeon. The consequence is that many, especially the more skilful and eminent in their profession, keep out of the way, or if they attend, hurry over the examination in a very superficial manner, while in many instances bungling practitioners of a lower order are employed, who are incapable of forming accurate opinions of the causes of death,

and in some cases may be warped in their evidence by an unwillingness to offend.

"I beg leave to suggest as a remedy, an act granting an ample remuneration to medical men for a thorough and deliberate examination of the body, PREVIOUSLY to the inquest, and for their attendance at the assizes, which may be held at a considerable distance from their residence, subjecting to expenses, and loss of their professional time. In Ireland the coroner is recompensed by a presentment of the Grand Jury of the county. Surgeons, &c. might be paid in like manner, at the assizes after their attendance."

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

RECENT INTELLIGENCE FROM FRANCE.

A CONSIDERABLE number of your readers will be gratified by hearing that Thomas Clarkson, the intrepid advocate of the abolition of the slave trade, has visited France in furtherance of this great object. He found that Louis XVIII. and his ministers were all very sincerely anxious for its final abolition, but they say, *and justly*, that as the English ministry suffered that article in the treaty to pass without objection, it was acted upon by the French merchants. T. Clarkson also asserts, that Louis XVIII. told the Duke of Wellington, that were he to make the proposal of the abolition of the slave trade, to Great Britain, the people would say that he was acting under the controul of the Prince Regent, which might endanger his throne. He however referred T. Clarkson to Talleyrand, who after repeating similar sentiments, added, that were the English to offer some compensation to France, there would be no difficulty in procuring their

consent to the measure of abolition.

As the generality of the French nation knew little of this infamous traffic, Talleyrand also advised T. Clarkson, to republish his works on the impolicy of the trade, and the report of the evidence in the house of Commons; with this advice he immediately complied, and his works were read and licensed the same day. The Duke of Wellington sent

copies of these books to the commissioners and ambassadors at Vienna, who, from their recent letters to T. Clarkson, appear to have taken up the matter warmly. It is also stated, that T. Clarkson has again returned to France, with despatches to the Duke of Wellington, with power to make such concessions as Talleyrand recommended.

AN ABOLITIONIST.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF EDWARD RUSHTON, WRITTEN BY HIS SON.

EDWARD RUSHTON was born on the 13th of November, 1756, in John-street, Liverpool. His education, which he received at a free school, terminated with his ninth year. At ten he read Anson's voyage, resolved to be a sailor, was bound as an apprentice to Watt and Gregson, and before he entered his eleventh year, he was a sea boy in the West Indies. He performed the various duties of his station with skill and credit, this was evinced by the following fact. At this time, i. e. when he reached his sixteenth year, he received the thanks of the captain and crew of the vessel, for his seaman like conduct, having seized the helm, and extricated the ship, when the captain and crew were wandering about in despair.

Before seventeen, whilst yet in his apprenticeship, he signed articles as second mate of the vessel, in which a short time before he entered as cabin-boy. When in this situation in the West Indies, a circumstance occurred, which is worthy of preservation. He was despatched from the ship with a boat's crew,

on some errand to the shore, the vessel then lying a few miles from the shore; when about three miles from Jamaica, the boat, from some unknown cause, upset, and five or six individuals were left to struggle for life, depending only on their bodily strength and skill for their preservation. The boat in a short time presented itself keel upwards, upon which they all speedily mounted, but no sooner had they seated themselves, and congratulated each other on their escape, than the boat slipped from under them, and they were again left to struggle.

In the boat, among others, was a negro, whose name was Quamina, between this individual and my father, a friendship had for some time subsisted, for my father taught Quamina to read. When the boat disappeared, my father beheld at some distance, a small cask, which he knew contained fresh water; for this cask he made, but before he could reach it, it was seized by the negro, who, on seeing my father almost exhausted, thrust the cask towards him, turned away his head, bidding him good bye, and never more was seen. This cask saved my father's